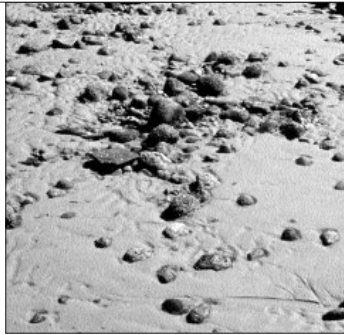
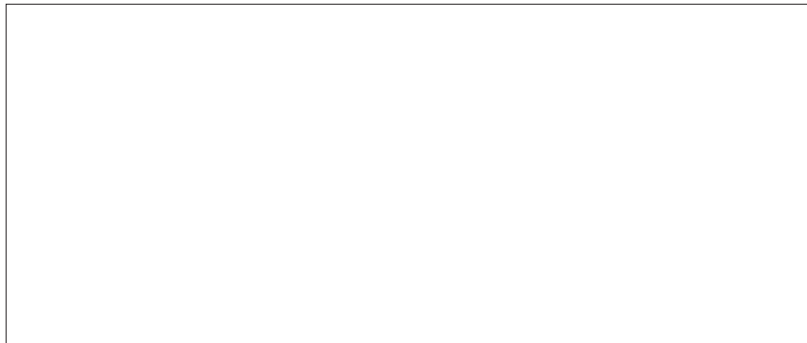


## CONCLUSION & APPENDIX



## CONCLUSION

This final Task Force Report, with its statement of Principles, the Recommendations, and accompanying Technical Reports, concludes the first phase of Massachusetts Ocean Management Initiative. The Task Force's recommendations are ambitious, consensus-based, and tempered with pragmatism.

We believe it is timely for the Commonwealth to advance these recommendations in light of recent undertakings by various organizations (including several major initiatives at the national level, such as the Pew Oceans Commission and the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy) to make recommendations for management of the federal oceans. Massachusetts is at the forefront of state ocean management and protection and will work closely with these national efforts. The Commonwealth has an opportunity to move forward in managing our own state's ocean resources in a proactive manner that both protects the underlying marine ecosystem and serves public needs for food and energy production, shipping, recreation, waste disposal, telecommunication, etc.



We expect that following on our delivery of this Report to the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, she will request additional public comment on our Principles and Recommendations. These additional public comments will aid her in developing a plan to move forward in response to our Recommendations. We expect that the Secretary will work with her Commissioners, as well as with external partners in the public and private sectors, to develop an implementation plan for those recommendations she believes merit further pursuit. We stand ready to support her in these efforts.



Successful implementation of these Recommendations cannot be accomplished by state government alone. Partnerships with the private sector, advocacy groups, academia, local government, and federal agencies will be sought to move forward on this ambitious agenda, to ensure that the policies adopted and implemented in Massachusetts in the future receive the benefit of broad-based support.



# APPENDIX

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## WORKING GROUPS OF THE OCEAN MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

**Principles Working Group** (Chaired by David O'Connor), tasked with developing a group of Ocean Management Principles to guide the work of the Task Force and subsequent work of the Ocean Management Initiative.

**Outreach Working Group** (Chaired by Robbin Peach, staffed by Sarah Joor), tasked with identifying opportunities to raise public awareness and involvement in the Task Forces' work.

**Frameworks Working Group** (Chaired by Dr. Sue Tierney, staffed by Susan Snow-Cotter), responsible for identifying and evaluating overall policy approaches for managing the Commonwealth's ocean resources

**Policy Working Group** (Chaired by Jim Hunt, staffed by Arthur Pugsley), charged with determining the shortcomings and strengths of our legal/regulatory/policy tools; identifying gaps; examining best practices; crafting appropriate policy, regulatory, and statutory recommendations; and developing recommendations to improve federal/state/local, interagency, and cross-jurisdictional coordination.

**Use Characterization Working Group** (Chaired by Tom Skinner, staffed by Deerin Babb-Brott), tasked with characterizing the uses/activities (e.g., industrial, commercial, recreational, military, preservation) occurring in different geographic regions of the Commonwealth; assessing the areas of highest conflict, as well as areas that accommodate multiple uses; and forecasting changing uses.

**Data Trends and Needs Working Group** (Chaired by Dr. Judy McDowell, staffed by Tony Wilbur), charged with summarizing the key state ocean resource data presently collected, including ecological and economic trends; identifying gaps in knowledge, and the availability of existing data; and identifying information that is essential to support ocean management decisions.

